GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:959
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
COINBOX TO MOBILE CONNECTIVITY AT TEHSIL HQS
Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that coinbox to mobile connectivity is available only at District headquarters thus denying tehsil headquarters to have this facility;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up national nodes at tehsil headquarters to enhance the rural connectivity;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Sir, in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), the local Public Calls Office (PCO) policy has been reviewed with a view to allow termination of calls on mobile network also from Local PCOs including Coin Collection Box (CCB) PCOs with some modification in tariff and call duration. The revised policy in respect of CCB PCOs is planned to be implemented after making necessary modifications in the CCB instruments. In Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), mobile phones of all operators are accessible from CCB PCOs in both MTNL, Delhi and Mumbai.

(c) to (e) In BSNL, the national nodes are by and large at State capitals. There is no need to have national nodes for rural connectivity as rural connectivity is already provided via Short Distance Charging Centre (SDCC) which is normally located at Sub Divisional headquarter/Tehsil Headquarter/Block Headquarter.